REMARKS

The Examiner has required the Applicant to elect one of two groups of claims: Group I (claims 1-8) drawn to a method and Group II (claims 9-21) drawn to a laboratory device.

Applicant hereby elects with traverse Group I (claims 1-8) for further prosecution.

Applicant respectfully requests that the application now proceed promptly to examination. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicant's attorney would expedite allowance of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 261-3113.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 30, 2006

Reg. No. 41,640

Tel. No.: (617) 261-3113

Fax No.: (617) 261-3175

Michael H. Brodowski Attorney for Applicants

Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Nicholson

Graham LLP 75 State Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02109-1808

BOS-935776 v1